

L.I.F.E. TECH

Transition Center for Women

8476 U.S. Highway 231 North
Wetumpka, AL 36092
334-514-5100



Partnership for Success



Parole Board Members



Mr. William W. Wynne, Jr.
Chairman



Mr. Robert Longshore
Associate Member



Ms. VeLinda Weatherly
Associate Member



From the Division Director

Thank you for your interest in our program. The first L.I.F.E. Tech transition center opened on April 12, 2004 with the goal of providing women in transition with the treatment, education and community resources essential to their successful return to society.

The program has served over 1,000 women to date; our current recidivism rate is 2.5 percent. Our education program has helped over 120 women attain their GED. Many past residents are working and remain drug free.

I would like to take this time to thank our Parole Board, the Governor's Office and our Legislators who made all of this possible through their vision. I would also like to thank each of our community partners for their assistance in this great worthwhile endeavor. We have found that when state agencies work together, nothing seems to be impossible.

Sharon Ziglar

For more information about our program go to www.paroles.state.al.us

Our goal . . .

Our ultimate goal is to provide the necessary treatment tools in order to prevent relapse; to provide education and job-readiness training; and to network resources to give residents a start in their return to society.



The Program

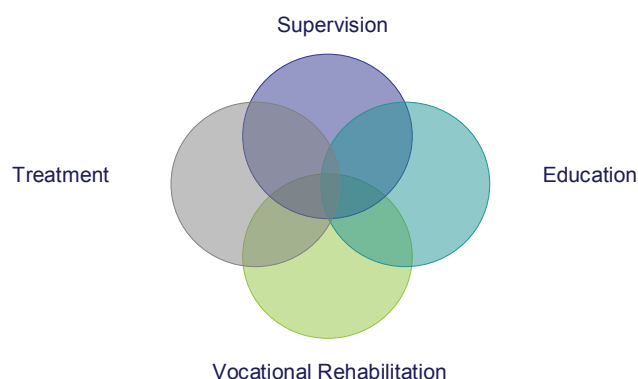
L.I.F.E. (Life Skills Influenced by Freedom and Education) Tech Transition Center opened April 12, 2004. This program was designed to offer long term solutions to ease prison overcrowding as it relates to recidivism. The program assists parolees who are ordered by the Parole Board and probationers ordered by the sentencing judge. The center has served over 1000 probationers and parolees since its inception by providing individualized treatment plans, educational /vocational training and vocational rehabilitation services. The probationers and parolees are supervised by probation/parole officers (sworn law enforcement officers) during their stay at the center.

The Transition Centers operated by the Alabama Department of Pardons and Parole offer positive life-changing opportunities for parolees and probationers in life skills, substance abuse recovery, education, occupational assessment and training, in a residential campus environment. Long term solutions will be sought for each individual, taking a holistic approach utilizing available resources, family participation, and positive peer support.

Transition Centers are designed to provide a wide variety of services including but not limited to: educational, vocational, life skills, parenting, counseling, and substance abuse for residents. The residents voluntarily agree to abide by both parole/probation conditions and special conditions (transition center rules). The center is staffed and operational 24 hours a day 7 days a week. The residents are provided housing, meals, and laundry services. Healthcare is the sole responsibility of the resident.

Pre-sentence or equivalent investigation and delinquency reports will be reviewed prior to acceptance into the program by the center director, assistant director or designee.

Service Providers



Supervision:	Alabama Board of Pardons and Parole
Treatment:	HRDI of Alabama, Inc.
Education:	Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education (AE/GED) Ingram State Technical College (job-readiness/technical training)
Community Reconnect:	Vocational Rehabilitation Services

A Four-Phase Approach

The program is broken down into four phases. Some phases are time-based, however residents must satisfy the provider (meet certain criteria) to advance to the next phase.

Phase One	Intake and Stabilization (approximately 4 weeks)
Phase Two	Extended Intensive Treatment (approximately 12 weeks)
Phase Three	Education and Aftercare (based on educational needs)
Phase Four	Community Reconnect

Phase One

Intake and Stabilization Residents are assessed for their specific needs and individual treatment plans are created. Residents (parolees or probationers) are received from Tutwiler, Birmingham Work Release, community corrections or county jails. New residents are assessed to determine any mental or medical treatment and any other special need by the treatment staff. The resident's stay here is closely monitored and structured during the Phase One. The resident is assigned a bed by staff and issued linens, storage devices, personal hygiene items and clothing as necessary. The resident has numerous contacts with their assigned officer to target potential problems and needs. New residents are oriented by their assigned officer and center rules and expectations are covered.

Phase Two

Extended Intensive Treatment Residents begin their treatment plans that include: substance abuse, parenting, anger management, alternative thinking, counseling etc... This program is administered by Human Resource Development Institute, contracted through the Alabama Department of Mental Health. The program includes both group and individual sessions and is designed to promote self awareness of drug/alcohol abuse and to develop tools prevent relapse. The other topics include parenting, (to reestablish ties with their children and families), anger management (dealing with problems without violence) counseling (how to cope with daily living and deal with problems that arise) and mental health (referred to a contracted physician by the treatment provider).

Phase Three

Education and Aftercare The education program offers a wide array of services including basic literacy, GED preparation and short-term technical skills training. Emphasizing job-readiness and effective workplace behaviors, the instructional staff is committed to delivering quality education tailored to meet individual needs.

Residents are first assessed to determine educational and/or vocational training needs; each student then follows a personalized education plan developed on the basis of existing skill levels, work history and career goals.

Every student enrolled at L.I.F.E. Tech leaves with computer skills; and most students earn the state's new Career Readiness Credential, which is awarded based on WorkKeys scores.

Students can train for a career in one of three growth industries: clerical, construction or warehouse management; and many graduates are working in their communities using skills learned at L.I.F.E. Tech.

One of the most exciting components of the adult education program is the GED prep class. Currently, the program enjoys a 92 percent pass rate for individuals taking the GED at L.I.F.E. Tech, compared to a 60 percent average nationwide. Several of the program's GED recipients are currently attending colleges and universities around the state.



Treatment is ongoing in phase three; residents participate in both individualized and group counseling activities. In this phase residents are permitted weekend passes away from the center and have opportunities for volunteer and community service activities.

Phase Four

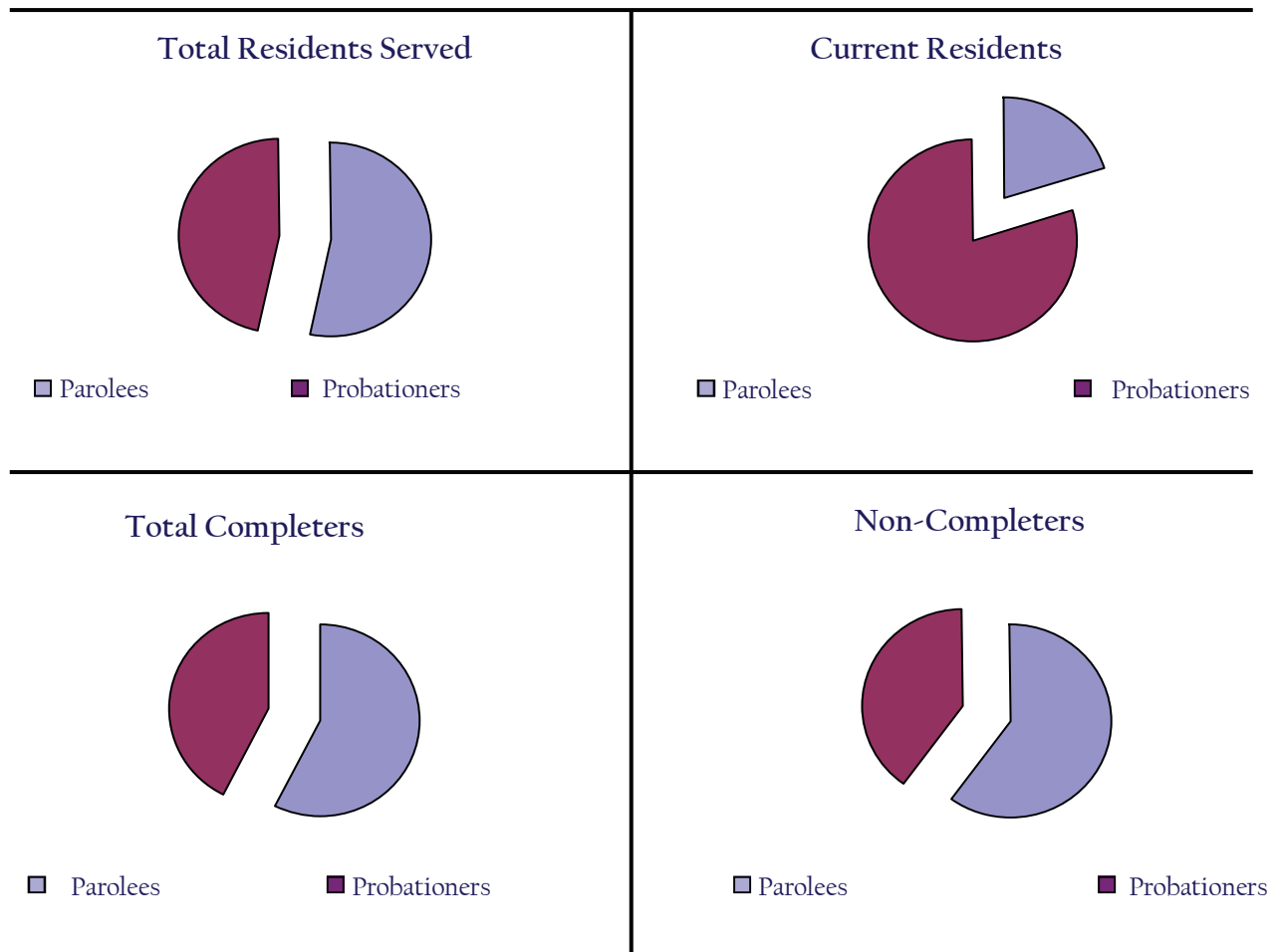
Community Reconnect Residents are assessed by Alabama Vocational Rehabilitation Services to assist in providing links to housing and other necessities to transition residents from the center to society. These services include money for: driver's license, birth certificates, work clothes, housing and other equipment deemed necessary for employment.

After Completion

Upon successful completion of the program, residents are transferred to a field office caseload after acceptance and investigation of a home plan in the area in which the resident will reside unless otherwise noted by court or board order. The resident will be supervised in accordance with board policy.

Statistics

Statistics compiled through August 27, 2007 indicate that L.I.F.E. Tech—Wetumpka has a recidivism rate of 2.5 percent for parolees and probationers. This number represents the percentage of past residents who have been convicted of new offenses since leaving the center.



Statistics compiled on 8/27/07 show the following:

Total number of residents served	1,173
Successful program completions	704
Current population	124
GEDs awarded	150
Technical Training Certificates awarded	357
Alabama Certified Worker certificates awarded	85

In 2005 and 2006 the L.I.F.E. Tech adult education program was ranked number one in the state.

In 2005 the program received the prestigious Governor's Partners in Progress Workforce Development Award.

Our graduates speak

"Life Tech has made me realize that I can have a future, clean and sober, and that I am a beautiful and talented woman. I will use what I have learned for my future. Thanks Life Tech!"

C.P. , Jefferson County (2/21/06 – 11/21/06)

"Life Tech has changed me in so many positive ways. I now have a better relationship with my family, a way of life without drugs/alcohol and a future in college at Montevallo. When I first arrived on June 29, 2006 I never thought I would make it. With the help and support of the counselors with HRDI, the probation officers and everyone in education I successfully conquered every obstacle I was faced with. I want to thank everyone here for believing in me, even when I didn't believe in myself. I also never would have done it without putting God first. He has been and will be by my side every step of the way. Thank you again and I will be keeping in touch".

H. M., Bibb County (6/29/06 – 2/6/07)

"I have learned to build healthy relationships with family and friends. I have brought my grades from low to high in school. I have learned to live without criminal thinking or criminal behavior. Life Tech has changed my thinking, behavior, attitude and it has changed my life from bad to good".

K.B., Morgan County (3/13/06 – 11/28/06)

"I never thought I would accomplish what I have. The day finally came that I am more than I ever thought I would be. Life Tech made me one that I was created to be. Being here was a blessing from God. Now, I can live life to the fullest. Thank you Life Tech for helping me become the person I always wanted to be. My dreams have come true!"

J. C., Jefferson County (3/6/06 – 12/1/06)



Life Tech has been a blessing in disguise. When I first got here, I wanted to leave. As I grew in my recovery I learned a great many lessons and had opportunities that I would have never had before. I learned respect, responsibility, hard work and the love of others is a necessity in our world today. I have to give all the credit to God first and foremost and Life Tech. Thank you to all my friends and Life Tech Staff".

R.P., Mobile County (5/17/06 – 2/5/07)

Our graduates speak

"I would like to say that Life Tech saved me from myself. Through these awesome counselors here I was able to step out of self and get behind God. It is not an easy process but I truly believe that it was for a reason. Discipline teaches you responsibility. I would like to say to you, keep your head up and follow the rules and everything else will fall into place. Thank you".

K. P., Jefferson County (6/20/06 – 2/1/07)

"Above all this program has given me hope. It has opened my eyes to things that I never through would be possible. This program has many opportunities that most others don't have. The only thing that we must do is take advantage of them. It showed me that no matter what I did in my past it does not have to dictate my future; that change is possible but it's up to me to make that happen. As long as I work hard and show a willingness to change, the counselors and staff have always been there to support me. I'm so glad that my attitude changed after I had been here awhile, otherwise I would have cut myself short on an opportunity that a lot of people don't get. I realize now that I am fortunate to have that chance."

S. S. T., Jefferson County (6/20/06 – 2/5/07)

"To the residents of Life Tech: Life Tech is definitely the best thing that could have happened to me. I went to prison in Alabama twice and did a year in Georgia. I should have gone back to Tutwiler for the third time, but God sent me to Life Tech. I've never been to a treatment facility before, but I know without a doubt that a short-term program would never have helped. The counselors and staff here are excellent. I thank God for Ms. Shirley and Ms. Jackie. They made me see things about myself that I never knew. They have had a profound effect on my life. I'm going to start my life over now, attending meetings and focusing on my Lord and Savior. Stay focused and get everything you can out of this program. On the days when you get frustrated and think this is too much try to remember you could be in a worse place. Life Tech is truly a blessing. I wish you all the best."

D. C. Randolph County (6/9/06 – 2/9/07)



"Life Tech changed my life for the better. Through HRDI Staff, Education Staff and my Officer (Stacey Brown) I had positive people that cared about me. They saw something in me that I didn't see and that was potential. I thank God for His grace and mercy. I reached all my goals. I am so proud of myself especially because I earned my GED. Thanks for everything"

R. D., Mobile County (3/20/06 – 12/21/06)

Statistics

LIFETECH TRANSITION CENTER WETUMPKA

WOMEN'S TRANSITION

APRIL 2004 THRU SEPTEMBER 30, 2004

	Received	Completed	Non Completions
Parolees	183	71	23
Probationers	6	2	2
Both	3	0	0
	<hr/> 192	<hr/> 73	<hr/> 25

OCTOBER 1, 2004 THRU SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

	Received	Completed	Non Completions
Parolees	210	179	49
Probationers	195	49	54
Both	12	14	0
	<hr/> 417	<hr/> 242	<hr/> 103

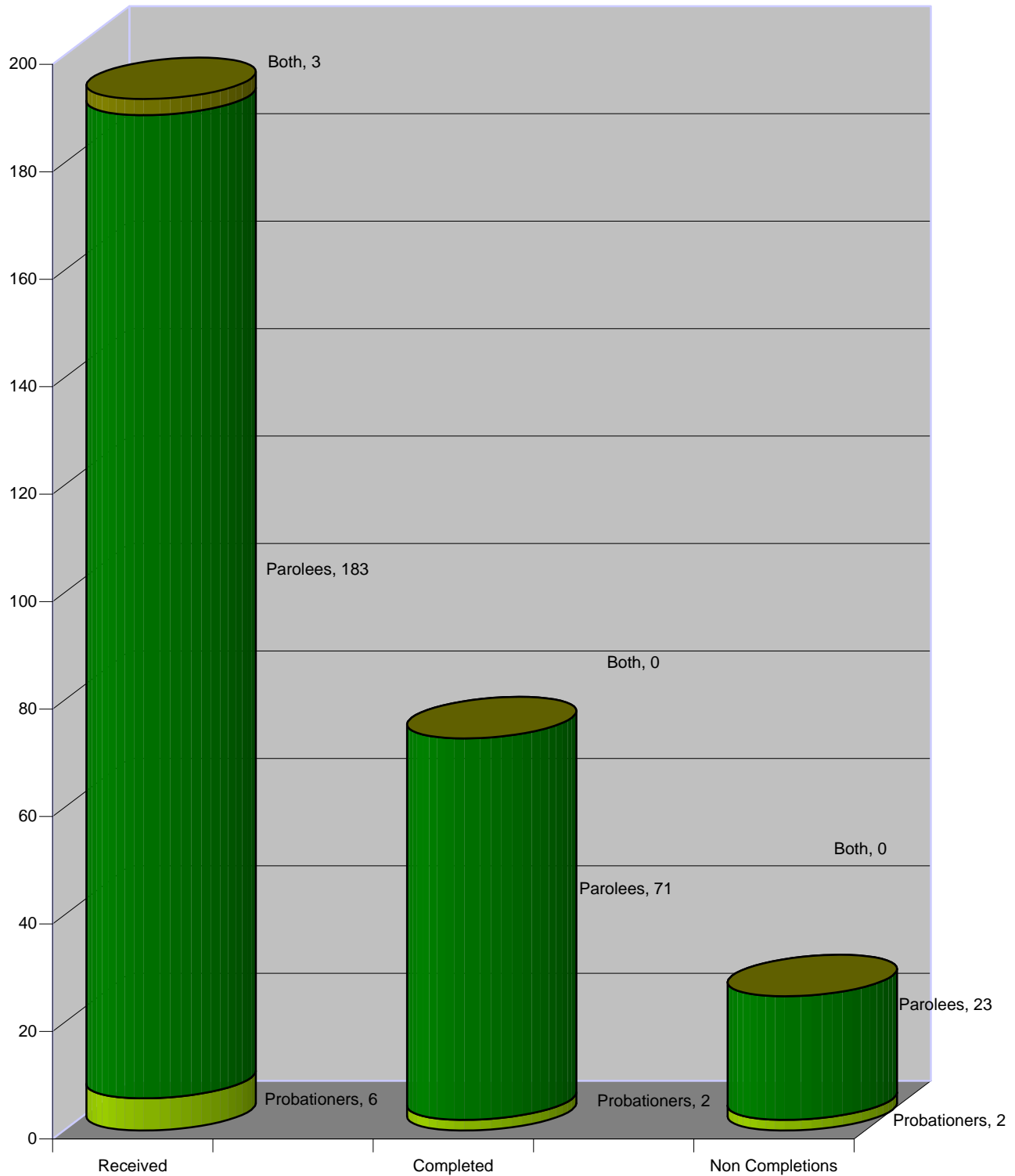
OCTOBER 1, 2005 THRU SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

	Received	Completed	Non Completions
Parolees	166	85	87
Probationers	184	130	45
Both	2	1	6
	<hr/> 352	<hr/> 216	<hr/> 138

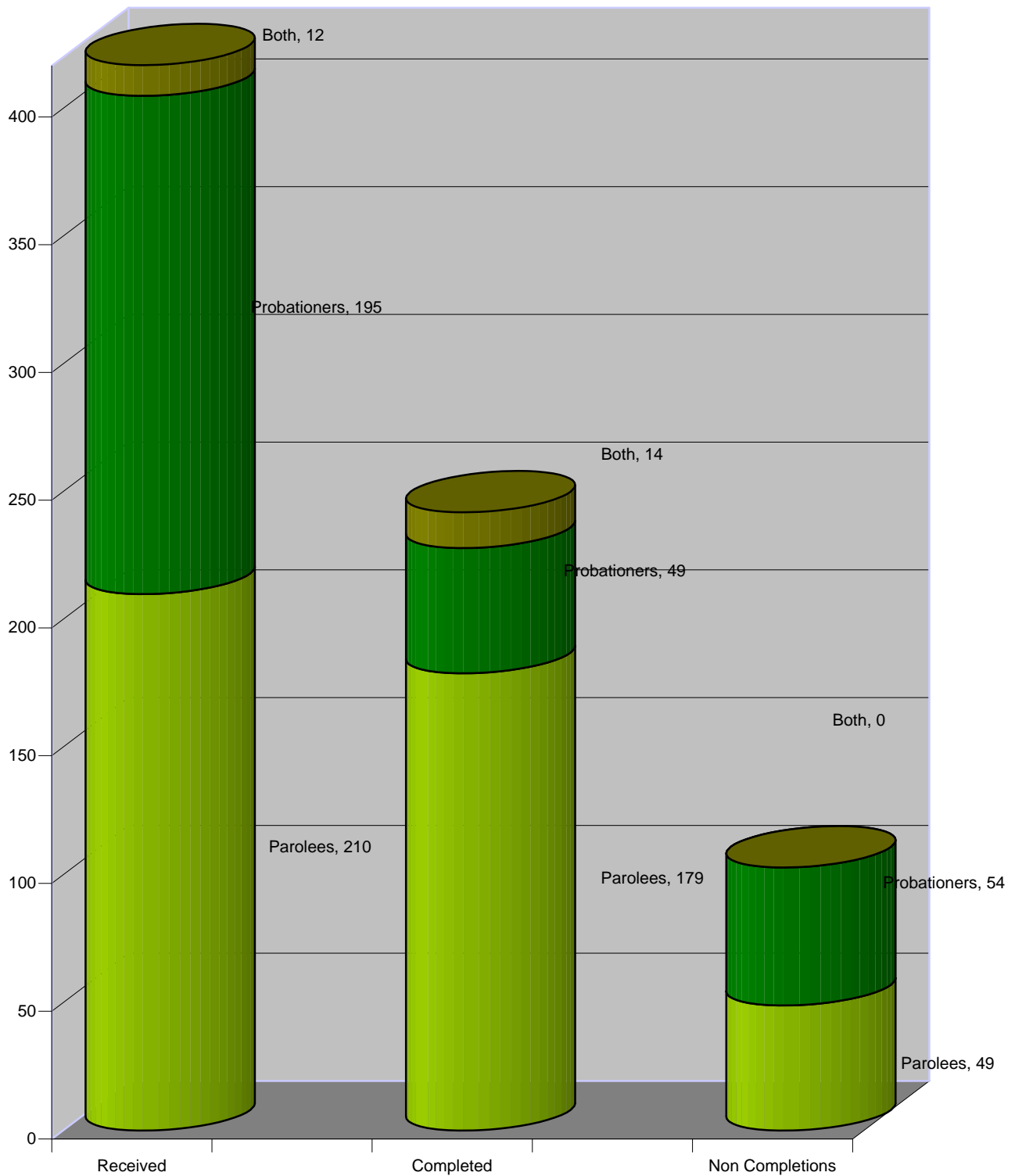
OCTOBER 1, 2006 THRU SEPTEMBER 5, 2007

	Received	Completed	Non Completions
Parolees	46	51	29
Probationers	176	124	44
Both	1	3	6
	<hr/> 223	<hr/> 178	<hr/> 79

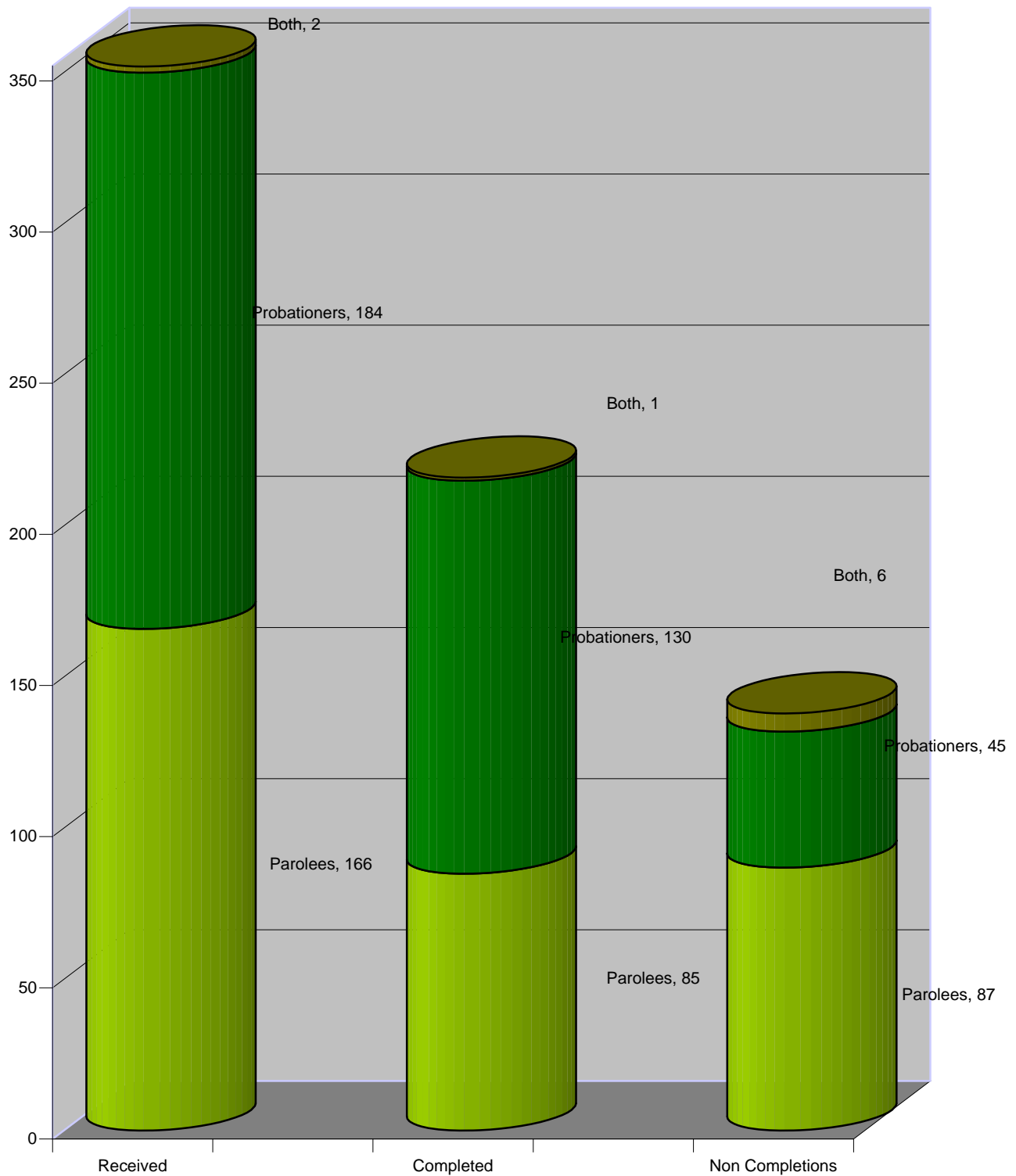
April 12, 2004 - September 30, 2004



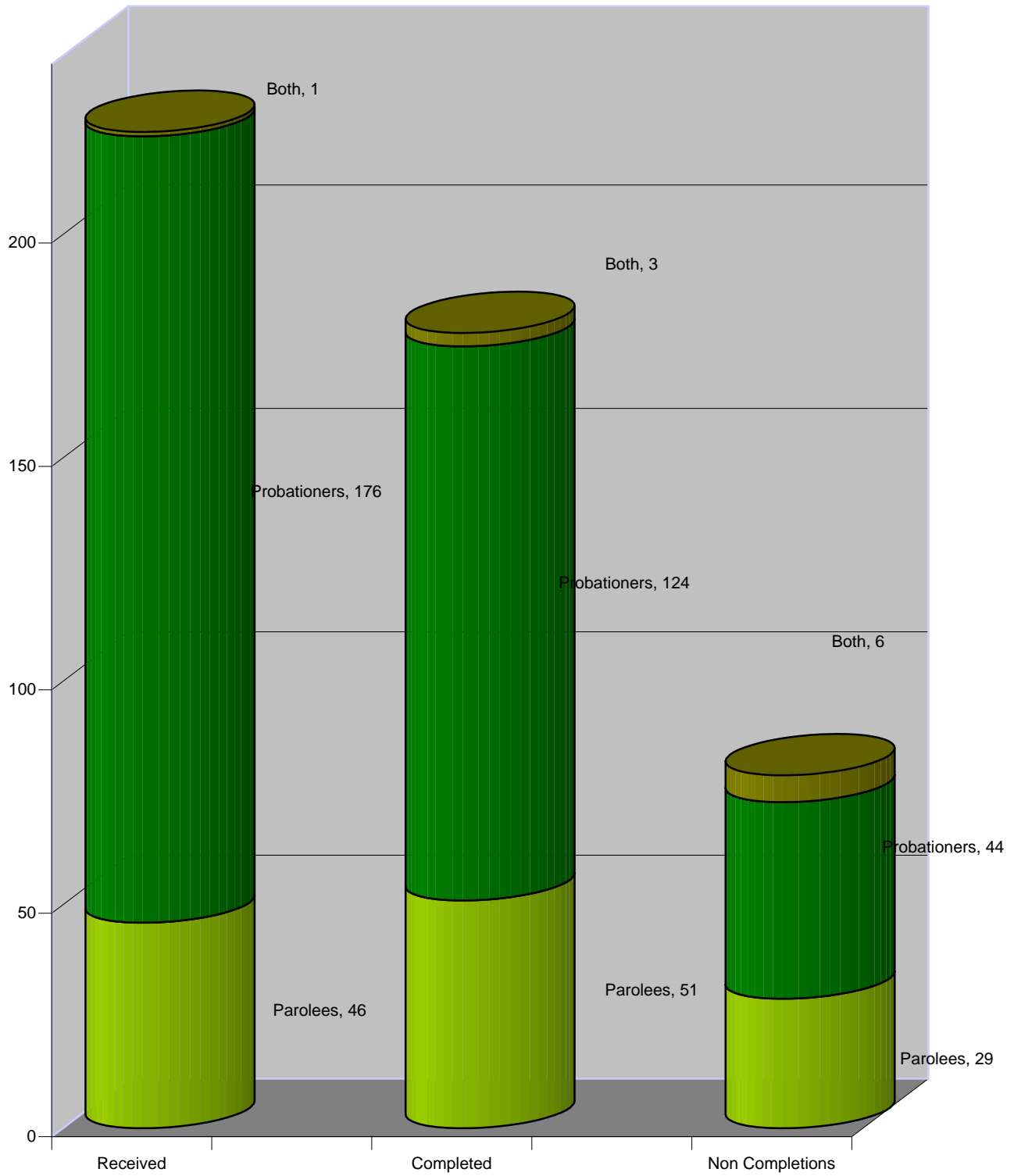
October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005



October 1, 2005 - September 30, 2006



October 1, 2006 - September 5, 2007



THE ALABAMA BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES
DIVISION OF TRANSITION AND TECHNICAL VIOLATION CENTERS

Sharon Ziglar, Division Director
sharon.ziglar@alabpp.gov

(334) 353-7548

LIFE Tech Wetumpka
"Women's Transitional Facility"
8476 US HWY 231
Wetumpka, AL 36092

Phone: (334) 514-5100

Fax: (334) 514-5101

David Still, Center Director LIFE Tech Wetumpka
david.still@alabpp.gov

(334) 514-5091

Stacey Brown, Asst. Center Director
stacey.brown@alabpp.gov

(334) 514-5093

Rachel Smith, Administrative Support Assistant
rachel.smith@alabpp.gov

(334) 514-5090